TRAVEL PRICES ACCELERATE IN APRIL

Soaring gasoline prices raised the cost of travel in April by 1.4 percent, the largest increase in two years, according to the U.S. Travel Data Center's Travel Price Index (TPI).

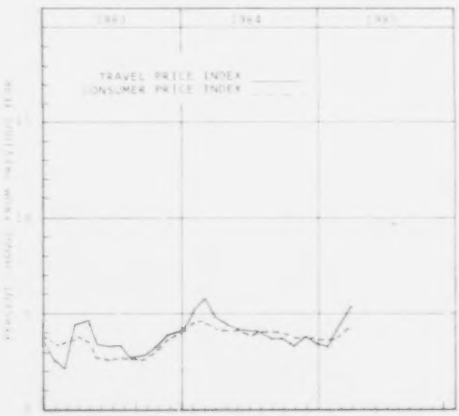
For comparison, the cost of consumer goods as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) grew 0.4 percent in April.

The TPI, which measures changes in the seasonally unadjusted cost of lodging, food, transportation and other goods and services purchased by Americans traveling away from home in this country, jumped to 377.4 in April (1967=100).

Gasoline prices posted their largest gain in two years, up 3.8 percent. The cost of entertainment services rose 2.7 percent, and the prices of lodging while out of town climbed 1.8 percent.

Intercity railroad fares were unchanged in April, the third consecutive month of steady intercity railroad fares. Only one TPI component decreased in April: intercity bus fares fell 0.2 percent.

The TPI has risen 5.6 percent since April 1984, slowed by a 3.3 percent decrease in gasoline prices, while the CPI has increased 4.2 percent during this period. Over this period, airline fares have jumped 8.7 percent, followed by a 7.7 percent rise in lodging prices. Intercity bus fares and the cost of entertainment services each have increased 6.1 percent over the previous year.



APRIL TRAVEL PRICES POST SHARP INCREASE OVER CONSUMER PRICES

Monthly and Annual Rates of Change in the Travel Price Index and Components, April 1985

TPI Component	Monthly Percent Change March 1985 to April 1985	Annual Percent Change April 1984 to April 1985
Transportation	1.8	3.0
Airline Fares	0.4	8.7
Intercity Bus Fares	- 0.2	6.1
Intercity Train Fares	0.0	4.5
Taxicab Fares	0.0	2.9
Gasoline	3.8	- 3.3
Lodging	1.8	7.7
Food Away From Home	0.4	4.3
Entertainment Services	2.7	6.1
Incidentals	0.3	3.6
TRAVEL PRICE INDEX	1.4	5.6
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	0.4	4.2

Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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FOREIGN VISITOR SPENDING BENEFITS EVERY STATE, STUDY SHOWS

Foreign visitor expenditures touched every state in the nation in 1983, ranging from $2.7 billion in Florida to $5.8 million in Delaware.

However, the spending was highly concentrated: five states (Florida, California, New York, Hawaii, Texas) garnered two-thirds of the total.

The first state-by-state estimates of foreign visitor spending and its impact on employment, payroll and tax revenue based on large visitor surveys are contained in a study prepared by the U.S. Travel Data Center for the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The study, Impact of Foreign Visitors on State Economies, 1983, found that foreign visitor spending directly generated 313,000 jobs in the U.S. paying $3.1 billion in 1983. Federal, state and local tax revenue directly generated by this spending topped $1.6 billion.

Among U.S. Census regions, the greatest impact occurred in the Pacific region with 30 percent of the total, followed by the South East.

Over half of the spending occurred on personal trips, such as vacationing and visiting friends and relatives. Business/convention travelers accounted for 28 percent of foreign spending in the U.S. in 1983.

The 81-page Impact of Foreign Visitors on State Economies, 1983 contains tables and narrative providing estimates of foreign visitor spending and its impact by state, destination region, type of expenditure, area of residence and type of trip. It will be sent to full members of the Data Center and is available to others for $30.00 prepaid from the U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20036. ##

National Travel Survey Results
(omitted from May Travel Printout)

	Jan 1985 (millions)	% Change 1985/1984
Total person-trips	61	13.0%
Vaca. person-trips	41	25.3
Total person-nights	250	- 5.5
Vaca. person-nights	181	- 4.9

Source: U.S. Travel Data Center

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The jobs generated by 1983 expenditures made travel and tourism the largest private employer in 12 states and among the top three in 41 states.

The 60-page report, Impact of Travel on State Economies, 1983, is the sixth annual study of travel's contribution to each state's employment, income and tax revenue, detailing changes in economic impact by state and major industry component. For the first time, state-by-state estimates also show the impact of both U.S. residents' and foreign visitors' travel spending. The report will be sent to members and is available to others for $55.00 prepaid from the U.S. Travel Data Center, 1899 L Street NW, Suite 610, Washington, DC 20036. ##

EDITOR'S NOTE

A disturbing development in recent years is the continuing decline in the number and timeliness of monthly indicators of travel activity. Most recently, the American Bus Association discontinued its series on intercity bus passenger-miles, a Current Travel Indicators feature for many years. Moreover, Travel Printout readers have seen an increase in the number of "N/A's" on the CTI page as sources fell behind the table's three-month margin.

In order to cover monthly travel measurements as comprehensively as possible, we have changed the CTI format to include the most recent data available for 21 series on travel and the travel industry regardless of month. Readers will always have the most recent reading available, although the months may vary among the series.

We hope this form of CTI will prove more useful than the growing number of empty cells. ##

States comprising the Census regions:

NEW ENGLAND: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont. MIDDLE ATLANTIC: New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania. SOUTH EAST: Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia. EAST NORTH CENTRAL: Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin. WEST NORTH CENTRAL: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota. WEST SOUTH CENTRAL: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas. MOUNTAIN: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming. PACIFIC: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington.

CURRENT TRAVEL INDICATORS

	Current Month	Current Value	Percent Change From Previous Month	Percent Change From Year-ago Month	Percent Change Year-to-date 1985/84
Establishment receipts or retail sales					
Hotels, motels and other lodging places(1)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eating and drinking places(2)	Mar	$10,666 million	0.5	6.0	4.8
Gasoline service stations(2)	Mar	$ 8,365 million	3.1	- 2.8	- 2.3
Commercial lodging demand					
Hotel/motel occupancy rate(3)	Mar	65.1 percent	1.4	1.1	- 1.3
Real demand for commercial lodging(4)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Airline passenger traffic(5)					
Domestic revenue passenger-miles	Mar	20.5 billion	31.4	21.8	16.7
International revenue passenger-miles	Mar	4.3 billion	26.9	6.9	3.0
Highway traffic volume(6)					
Rural arterial vehicle-miles	Mar	36.4 billion	26.3	5.8	2.8
Rail passenger traffic(7)					
Amtrak passenger-miles	Mar	376.4 million	28.3	- 0.4	1.4
Travel Price Index(8)	Mar	372.1	1.1	1.1	3.6
U.S. resident travel(9)					
Total person-trips	Feb	43.9 million	-28.0	- 3.1	5.6
Vacation person-trips	Feb	24.6 million	-40.1	1.7	15.3
Total person-nights	Feb	237.0 million	- 5.2	- 9.8	- 7.6
Vacation person-nights	Feb	162.4 million	-10.2	-10.5	- 7.7
Public use of national parks(10)					
Visits	Mar	15,260,152	51.4	16.2	8.9
Overnight stays	Mar	646,208	48.8	2.9	- 1.0
Foreign arrivals in U.S.(11)					
From overseas	Feb	565,339	-14.4	7.7	5.9
From Canada	Mar	946,681	56.8	- 8.4	- 5.0
U.S. citizen departures(11)					
To overseas	Feb	869,856	- 8.4	- 1.4	2.1
To Canada	Mar	453,023	25.6	8.4	- 0.6
Domestic demand for motor gasoline(12)					
Barrels per day	Mar	6,533 thousand	0.2	0.3	2.0

N/A = not available

(1)Source: Laventhol and Horwath, seasonally unadjusted. (2)Preliminary: adjusted for seasonal variation and trading-day differences. Source: Bureau of the Census. (3)Source: Laventhol and Horwath, seasonally adjusted. (4)Source: Laventhol and Horwath, unadjusted expenditures for commercial lodging adjusted for inflation since 1972. (5)Preliminary; U.S. scheduled service air carriers. Source: U.S. Department of Transportation. (6)Source: Federal Highway Administration. (7)Source: National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). (8)Source: U.S. Travel Data Center and Bureau of Labor Statistics. (9)Source: U.S. Travel Data Center. (10)Preliminary; unadjusted for differences in reporting units. Source: National Park Service. (11)Source: Statistics Canada and Nettleton Travel Research Center. (12)Preliminary; Source: U.S. Department of Energy.

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